

Becoming a Big Couple or Big Friend

Being a **Big Couple** or a part of the **Big Friends** program is one way you can impact the life a child without sacrificing time with your spouse, partner, or friends! To be in a Big Couple, you and a spouse or partner must be in a romantic relationship for at least two years. To be a Big Friend, you and a friend, coworker, or family member must know each other for at least two years.

What does it mean when you become a Big Couple/Big Friend?

You'll be matched one-to-one with a deserving child between the age of 8 and 14. To serve our growing population of young men, BBBSCI encourages Big Couples to consider being matched with a boy, unless you are in a same-gender female romantic relationship.

Big Couple / Big Friend Eligibility Requirements

Each party of the Big Couple / Big Friend pair must complete the inquiry form and each of the following steps:

- Provide references; each person must provide one (1) reference from a previous or current place of employment or college/university if you are a student. (coworker, supervisor, professor, mentor, etc.), one (1) reference that is a personal reference (friend, neighbor, family member, etc.), and one (1) reference that knows both of you as a couple and can speak to your relationship (family member, friend, etc.) and this reference is submitted by both applicants together. **PLEASE NOTE:** If either applicant has had a volunteer or paid experience with youth within the last 5 years, you must provide additional reference that will be considered “youth serving references” - you must provide a reference from all organizations where you have had relevant experience. More information about this step will be reviewed with you via phone or email after we have received your application.
- Each person must complete a background check including national criminal, sex offender and driving checks.
- Each person must participate in an in-person interview at the same time.
- Each person must participate in one Mentor Training Session at the same time.

